

## ABSTRACT

The image processing equipment produces an image of enhanced quality, having dots with higher density than in an original image, by collating an original image with templates. The present 5 invention reduces required number of templates. Original image data in a collation window is either mirror-converted, flip-converted or flip-and-mirror-converted in an array converter (33) and selected on a time-division basis to collate with a single template pattern (34). The effect is equivalent 10 to the collation with maximum four templates. Thus the number of template patterns to be prepared is greatly reduced. Also, by preparing additional patterns to be stored into an area that became vacant attributed to the reduction of patterns, more sophisticated image enhancement may be attained.

15